

Oh, No, They Did It Again! -- TLR Announces ANOTHER Hiatus...Mellifluous Skovron to Open Multi-tasking "Charm School" in L.A. to Address Tennis' Ills...Big John to Return to Grand Tetons for 'rest and reflection'...

September 24, 2008, Reuters, Providence, R.I.

Shocking their devoted listeners yet again, Tennis Live Radio's Todd Skovron and "Big John Behind the Glass" (**BJBTG**) announced suddenly on their September 23rd show that they would once again be taking an extended break from broadcasting until next year's Wimbledon matches. "Look, we figure Rafa and Roland Garros is a no-brainer, so why even bother covering that event,' the once-secretive but now TV-ready Skovron revealed to Reuters during his his extensive pre-show make-up and **wardrobe session**. "And we figure the Aussie Open is a toss-up, so let 'em surprise us and we can talk about when we get back on the air. Covering that tournament always messes up my **sleeping pattern** for weeks, anyway...And if Federer manages to tie Sampras there, so what--who cares about ties, really? The big story will be whether Fed makes 15+ (major titles). Besides, I've got other fish to fry..." Skovron revealed that during the show's time off the air, he intends to move to Los Angeles to open a multi-faceted 'charm school' of sorts. "Look, pal, I've identified a LOT of problems in the game from my exclusive TLR vantage point (Note to readers: inside a **Providence, RI closet/sound studio**), so I figured I might as well fix them and build up my retirement plan at the same time."

The usually-zany Skovron, who reportedly has taken out a 7-figure insurance policy on his voice, was nothing but deadly serious in describing his goals for the as-yet unnamed **Charm School**: "first, I've got to teach the WTA players how to volley. I am so SICK of watching these boring baseline rallies and the countless lost possibilities to put away a point at the net. I've worked out a deal with the Sony Ericsson WTA where all new players will have to spend a week at my School before they can move onto the Futures/Challengers and eventually the WTA's first tier itself. We decided it was a waste of time to try to teach the current players." "Second, in order to grow the game to the masses, we have GOT to improve the kinds of questions journalists ask at press conferences...I mean, how many times will we have to put up with guys asking Dementieva what's up with her serve, for example. And as an added bonus, I'm going to teach the scribes how to pronounce the players' names -- no more of this bouncing between **DementIEVA** or **DeMENTieva**, for example.' That is SO unprofessional." "I'll also be sharing my secrets for calling matches with some SERIOUS rollers from Vegas who want to know how I managed to 1) call the Fed-Djokovic and Murray-Nadal US Open semis AND the final, and 2) successfully predict that Venus was the better of the two Williams sisters...er, wait, uh, scratch that...but hey, three out of four's not bad, huh?"

Skovron also announced on the September 23rd show that he and long-time TLC contributor **Rich in L.A.** would be facing off in a series of World Wrestling Federation-sponsored bouts as warm-up acts for November's Federer-Nadal exhibitions in Hong Kong and Macau. "It's what the people want," Skovron said. "We're really big in Asia, and Roger has agreed that whoever wins will determine whether Federer will continue playing in the **BaseLine Fed** manner or return to his earlier "**SamprasFed**" attacking roots. So a lot will be riding on the outcome, and I'm hearing already that the serious Russian money is behind me..." Meanwhile, Skovron's partner, BJBTG, revealed that he would be moving to a hidden location somewhere in the Rocky Mountains to work on his upcoming autobiography, 'My Life Behind The Glass -- Deep Secrets of a Production Guy.'" "Hey, I've got stories to tell, believe me," the still-faceless-to-the-**Tennis-Live-Community** sound and effects Jedi master told Reuters. "If Todd wants his secrets to stay safe, it's gonna cost him," the shy BJBTG said.

Tim, Arlington, VA, USA
September 23, 2008